

[Translation]

Seizure of Gold and Silver

5867. SHRI DAU DAYAL JOSHI: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the quantity of gold and silver seized during last three years; and

(b) the places from where the smuggled gold and silver were seized?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI RAMESHWAR THAKUR): (a) Quantities of contraband gold and silver seized by Customs authorities during the last three years are as follows:

| <i>Quantity (in M. Ts.)</i> | | | |
|-----------------------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|
| | <i>1989</i> | <i>1990</i> | <i>1991</i> |
| Gold | 8.2 | 5.7 | 4.9 |
| Silver | 99.3 | 216.4 | 197.9 |

(b) Seizure of contraband gold and silver are effected on the sea, in coastal areas, land borders, at International airports as well as in cities.

[English]

Export of Molasses

5868. SHRI PARASRAM BHARDWAJ: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the export of molasses has been declining;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether huge quantity of molasses

has been declared surplus by various State Government;

(d) if so, the latest position of the surplus stock and the manner in which it is utilised or proposed to be utilised; and

(e) the policy of the Government with regard to export of molasses?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI SALMAN KHURSHEED): (a) and (b): No, Sir. On the contrary, export of molasses has shown increasing trend as may be seen from the statement below:

| <i>Year</i> | <i>Export (Rs. crores)</i> |
|-----------------------------|----------------------------|
| 1989-90 | 17.41 |
| 1990-91 | 21.84 |
| 1991-92 (April-February) | 37.21 |

(c) and (d): For the current alcohol year 1991-92 (December 1991 to November 1992), State Governments have reported total estimated production of molasses of 58.195 lakh tones and anticipated requirements (for distillation, cattle feed, etc.), aggregating 65.950 lakh tones.

(e) Export of molasses is allowed after meeting domestic requirements and is allowed subject to the provisions of Molasses Control Order.

Export of Engineering Goods

5869. SHRI B. DEVARAJAN: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have formulated any scheme to provide inputs to the engineering industry to increase the exports;